



# Green Tier

## Environmental Management Systems:

### Functionally Equivalent EMS Crosswalk to ISO 14001



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*This document is intended as a reference tool for Green Tier applicants, participants, auditors and DNR staff. The intent is to help understand the elements of a Functionally Equivalent (FE) Environmental Management System (EMS). Rather than using this document as a checklist to “prove” equivalency to ISO 14001, it is designed to help identify similarities of the 15 key elements of a Green Tier FE EMS as compared to an EMS that conforms to ISO 14001. While ISO 14001 is a well-known model for EMS, there are other EMS models and certifications available that can be determined as FE. Green Tier reviews all FE EMS submissions on a case by case basis.*

The crosswalk table on page 2 offers insight into how DNR sees the overlay of the sections of the ISO 14001:2015 Standard for environmental management systems with the 15 elements of functional equivalency outlined in the Green Tier law (§ 299.83). The crosswalk highlights the points where the two intersect but is not all-inclusive.

### How Green Tier Functional Equivalency Relates to ISO 14001:2015

There are concepts in ISO 14001:2015 that are not explicitly apparent in Green Tier's FE elements. Two examples that DNR expects to be included in a FE EMS are:

- Risk and opportunities – 299.83(dg)(2), (3), (10), (10g) can encompass the intent of ISO 14001:2015(6.1)
- Life Cycle - 299.83(dg) depicts the life cycle as part of the nature and scale of an entity, including those they interact with in their activities, products, and services thus encompassing the intent of ISO 14001:2015(8.1).

There are details in Green Tier's definition of FE that differ from ISO 14001. A few examples include:

- 299.83(dg) – includes language that emphasizes the nature and scale of an entity as part of the scope of the entire EMS, (not just the environmental policy)
- 299.83(dg)(1) – requires that the environmental policy be available to the public (not just interested parties)
- 299.83(dg)(2) – requires the identification of *all* environmental impacts (rather than requiring the distinction of *significant* environmental aspects in its analysis)
- 299.83(dg)(9) – involvement of employees, DNR and the public for collaboration on continual improvement projects

Certain sections of the ISO standard dive deeper into aspects that are not descriptively identified in 299.83(dg). The definitions section of ISO is one example. An assessment of the nature and scale of the EMS will determine the depth of relevance to each of the FE elements.

### Beyond the Environmental Management System

Green Tier participants, whether they choose to implement a FE EMS or an ISO 14001 certified EMS, gain additional benefits and have some additional commitments. For information on benefits, annual reporting, auditing frequency and more, please see the Green Tier website: [greentier.wi.gov](http://greentier.wi.gov).

**For more information please contact Green Tier**

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## Crosswalk

- The first column shows the language in the Green Tier law that defines a FE EMS
- The second column gives the specific numeric reference in the Green Tier law
- The third column lists sections of the 2015 version of ISO 14001 that relate to the Green Tier FE elements
  - **BOLD** section numbers indicate strong ties to the element
  - Green Tier elements often include multiple ISO topics like: planning, support, operation, performance and leadership
  - Not all subsections of each ISO section are specifically addressed. An assessment of the nature, scale and impacts will drive the depth of the correlation to each section or subsection

Stated Functional Equivalence Reference in Green Tier Law, §299.83(dg)		ISO 14001:2015 Cross References
Functionally equivalent environmental management system means an environmental management system that is appropriate to the nature, scale, and environmental impacts of an entity's activities, products, and services and that includes all of the following elements:	299.83(dg)	4.1, 4.2, <b>4.3</b> , <b>6.1.2</b> , <b>8.1</b>
Adoption of an environmental policy that includes a commitment to compliance with environmental requirements, pollution prevention, and continual improvement in environmental performance and that is available to the public.	299.83(dg)(1)	4.4, 5.1, <b>5.2</b>
An analysis of the environmental aspects and impacts of an entity's activities.	299.83(dg)(2)	4.1, 4.3, <b>6.1.2</b> , 6.2
Establishment and implementation of plans and procedures to achieve compliance with environmental requirements and to maintain that compliance.	299.83(dg)(3)	4.3, <b>6.1</b> , 6.2, 7.4, 8.1, 9.1, 10.2
Identification of all environmental requirements applicable to the entity.	299.83(dg)(4)	4.3, <b>6.1.3</b>
A process for setting environmental objectives and developing appropriate action plans to meet the objectives	299.83(dg)(5)	5.1, <b>6.2</b>
Establishment, implementation, and maintenance of resources, roles, and responsibilities for establishing, implementing, maintaining, and improving the environmental management system.	299.83(dg)(5m)	5.1, <b>5.3</b> , <b>6.2.2</b> , 7.1, <b>7.4</b> , 9.2.2, 9.3
Establishment of a structure for operational control and responsibility for environmental performance.	299.83(dg)(6)	5.1, <b>8.1</b> , 8.2, 10.2
Establishment, implementation, and maintenance of an employee training program to develop awareness of and competence to manage environmental issues.	299.83(dg)(7)	<b>7.2</b> , <b>7.3</b> , 8.2
A plan for taking actions to prevent environmental problems and for taking emergency response and corrective actions when environmental problems occur.	299.83(dg)(8)	<b>6.1</b> , <b>8.2</b> , 9.1.2, 10.2
A communication plan for collaboration with employees, the public, and the department on the design of projects and activities to achieve continuous improvement in environmental performance.	299.83(dg)(9)	4.2, 5.1, <b>7.4</b>
Procedures for control of documents and for keeping records related to environmental performance.	299.83(dg)(10)	5.2, 6.1.1, 6.1.3, 6.2.1, 7.2, 7.4.1, <b>7.5</b> , 8.1, 8.2, 9.1, 9.2.2, 9.3, 10.2
Establishment, implementation, and maintenance of procedures to monitor and measure, on a regular basis, key characteristics of an entity's operations that can have a significant environmental impact.	299.83(dg)(10g)	6.1, 7.3, 7.4, 8.1, <b>9.1</b> , 9.3,
Establishment, implementation, and maintenance of procedures for periodically evaluating compliance with applicable environmental requirements.	299.83(dg)(10r)	<b>6.1.3</b> , 6.1.4, 7.5, 8.1, <b>9.1.2</b>
Environmental management system audits.	299.83(dg)(11)	<b>9.2</b>
A plan for continually improving environmental performance and provision for senior management review of the plan.	299.83(dg)(12)	5.1, <b>9.3</b> , <b>10.1</b> , <b>10.2</b> , <b>10.3</b>

